

Fredericksburg Arts Commission Meeting

Thursday, May 6th

Council Chambers

Attendees: Peter Scelfo, Julie Perry, Roy Jarnecke, Kevin Bartram, George Solley, Kathleen Walsh, Rochelle Grey, Florence Ridderhof.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the April meeting were presented. It was noted that the treasurer's report was accidentally left off of the minutes. Once amended, Peter Scelfo moved that the minutes be approved, Kathleen Walsh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported that the treasury has \$14,250.00.

Public Comment

The Arts and Cultural Council of the Rappahannock had representatives in attendance to report on their activities to date. Kathryn Willis, Harvey Gold, and Charlie Booth made a series of presentations that they referred to as a 'Panoramic View of the Arts and Cultural Council of the Rappahannock'. They presented information and hand outs about:

1. Website/Calendar issues
 2. Sustainability
 3. Jack Darling Recognition
 4. Regional Cultural Tourism
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1. Charlie Booth spoke about the new website the Council is developing called www.rapparts.org. It will eventually have a calendar with sub calendars, a newsletter and arts directory. Geographically it will cover the City of Fredericksburg, the region and even the state. Kathryn Willis added that they want a Fredericksburg Arts Communications page and that they would love to work jointly with the Fredericksburg Arts Commission.
 2. Kathryn Willis then informed the FAC that their organization would be hosting their first Sustainability Workshop on June 29th. They hope for 40-50 people to attend.
 3. The Arts and Cultural Council of the Rappahannock also is beginning work on a tribute to artist Jack Darling. They plan on contributing to a centennial celebration in 2011. There will be an initial meeting in early June.
 4. Harvey Gold then told the Commission about an in depth Economic Development initiative to increase the presence of regional Arts and Cultural activities in tourism destination drivers. The Arts and Cultural

Council of the Rappahannock is applying for a VTC grant to create and print a regional Arts and Culture map.

Reports

Arts Festival Committee – Kevin Bartram

No report.

Public Arts – Pat Thalman

The group is in the middle of collecting bids and had no new information to report to the Commission at this time.

Website Committee – Debby Klein

Debby Klein reported to the Commission that the website committee is still writing their RFP to solicit bids for this project. Peter Scelfo then asked Charlie Booth about the Arts Council of the Rappahannock's proposed calendar function and whether or not it was a function of Google. Mr. Booth responded that it was.

Old Business

Arts and Culture District – George Solley

George Solley distributed a handout about the proposed Arts and Culture district with a map of suggested boundaries. Mr. Solley went over his compiled information and asked for comments. Julie Perry brought up the possibility of relaxing signage restrictions in the new Arts and Cultural District. Much discussion followed on previous issues experienced by local arts organizations such as Libertytown and Art First. Kevin Bartram said he thought the printed incentives were not enough and that he remembered hearing about 'non-cash' incentives used in other jurisdictions. He explained he would bring examples to the next meeting to share with Mr. Solley and the Commission. Kathleen Walsh brought up two examples of arts related urban renewal projects in Saratoga Springs, FL and Paducah, KY both of which she felt should be looked at as good examples.

As the discussion evolved Peter Scelfo suggested things like a freestanding Arts Map at the Visitor Center with corresponding brochures would be a nice touch. George Solley reminded the Commission that some of these things could be done without an ordinance. Debby Klein said that the Rappahannock Arts Council has talked about things like window stickers to denote arts businesses. Much discussion followed.

The other part of the proposal that created much discussion was the idea of defining 'arts related' businesses. After various thoughts were presented, Kevin Bartram volunteered to take a stab at that definition.

New Business**LibertyTown**

There were no new thoughts on this issue.

FOIA – Julie Perry

Julie Perry informed the Commission that she had attended a FOIA seminar and found out that sub-committee meetings had to be posted and open to the public. Roy Jarnecke said that he would add an agenda item to the monthly meetings to collect meeting times and locations from Committee Chairs.

Council Budget Appropriations

George Solley told the group that City Council approved an additional \$1500.00 for expenses to be added to the Arts Commission budget on July 1st, 2010.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 3rd, 2010 at 7pm in the City Hall Conference Room.

Adjournment

Peter Scelfo moved to adjourn and Debbie Klein seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.